

Rusk on Stand Today

# Hill Starts Cuba Hearings

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President Kennedy's flat statements that there had been "no influx" of Soviet arms and weapons in communist Cuba, and that no air cover was promised the Bay of Pigs invaders in 1961 will not head off congressional inquiries into those hotly debated issues.

Sen. Wayne Morse's Latin American affairs sub-committee will meet behind closed doors today. "We have no instructions to call it off," an aide said.

The committee has noted published reports that Soviet forces in Cuba are building and improving "highly sophisticated" ground and air defense, he added.

## WILL KEEP DATE

Secretary of State Dean Rusk "will keep his date" today with the Morse committee, the State Department said, "even though he has no startling news to tell different from what the President said."

Mr. Rusk is expected to be pressed for details on what the Soviet troops are doing in Cuba, the size of their units, how many barracks they have built or are building.

Next Wednesday Pentagon officials are expected to be asked about the Cuba build-up when the House Armed Services Committee begins its annual review of the world military posture.

Rep. William E. Minshall (R., O.) has introduced a resolution calling for a Joint House-Senate Committee inquiry into Minshall said today:

"The situation stands. We will go on if it is approved. We have been told (by the Defense Appropriations sub-committee) about the situation just now. What is the situation?"

"There are 16,000 troops in Cuba. There have been there since July and they are building permanent barracks. As far as ships coming in there, well, there's a subject to be debated."

## STATEMENT

Mr. Kennedy told his press conference yesterday that probably 4500 Soviet technicians were withdrawn from Cuba and that there are still 16,000 to 17,000 there.

He said these troops are operating missile sites "and other technical pieces of equipment," and that the Russians are "exercising, building some barracks."

Mr. Kennedy emphasized there was "no influx" of military equipment and said only one ship had arrived which "may have arms on it, possibly military cargo." But there is no evidence it carried offensive weapons, he added.

Sen. Kenneth Keating (R., N.Y.) charged earlier that "tanks, guns, Mig fighters, and other arms are continuing to pour into Cuba" and that the military strength there is 10 times greater than it was in July.